

## Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-04 PRS-01 CU-04 CIAE-00 INR-10

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R 141431Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7454

INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS HELSINKI 0956

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FI

SUBJ: MORE ON GULAG ARCHIPELAGO

1. EMBASSY EARLIER REPORTED (MUCH OF IT VIA USINFO) ON SWATH CUT IN FINLAND BY SOLZHENITSYN'S EXPULSION AND PUBLICATION HIS BOOK GULAG. FINNISH PUBLISHER WITH RIGHTS TO SOLZHENITSYN'S TRANSLATION/PUBLICATION IN FINNISH DECIDED NOT TO GO AHEAD WITH GULAG AFTER EXPULSION EVEN THOUGH WORK HALF TRANSLATED. BOOK WILL BE PRINTED IN FINNISH IN SWEDEN AND PRESUMABLY SOLD HERE. SWEDISH AND RUSSIAN VERSIONS ON SALE FINNISH BOOKSTORES.

2. LARGE DEPARTMENT STORE, CENTRUM, IN TURKU DECIDED APRIL 17 TO STOP SELLING GULAG AFTER THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE FINNISH COMMUNIST PARTY PROTESTED THAT "BY SELLING THIS MUCH PUBLICIZED BOOK THE STORE (PART OF GIANT ELANTO COOPERATIVE) JOINED THE RANKS OF INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATIVE FORCES AND SO ASSISTED IN THE IDEOLOGICAL ATTACK ON THE USSR."

3. TURKU CITY LIBRARIES HAD SEVEN COPIES OF THE BOOK IN SWEDISH. THE LIBRARY BOARD, READING THE BOOK PRIOR TO RELEASING IT FOR CIRCULATION, DECIDED MAY 9 THE BOOK COULD BE CIRCULATED, IT "NOT BEING THEIR DUTY TO EXAMINE OR CENSOR THE CONTENTS OF AN INDIVIDUAL BOOK." PRESS WAGS SAY IT'S DIFFICULT BORROW GULAG FROM LIBRARY BECAUSE BOARD MEMBERS STILL READING.

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4. ELSEWHERE CIRCULATION AND SALE OF THE BOOK SEEMS TO BE  
PROCEEDING NORMALLY IN SWEDISH, RUSSIAN AND GERMAN. IT  
IS OFTEN NECESSARY TO RESERVE TO OBTAIN.  
KREHBIEL

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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